

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Youichi Zenda et al.

Application No.: 10/529,957

Confirmation No.: 7457

Filed: November 30, 2005

Art Unit: 3679

For: MEMBER-JOINING DEVICE

Examiner: N. Amiri

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed September 24, 2007, the Examiner has required restriction between the following Inventions:

Group 1: Claims 2, 3, and 5-9, drawn to Group I, a member-joining device having first and second bridge members spanning between the opposing walls of the first and second members. It is considered that the bridge members as a first “special technical feature”.

Group 2: Claims 10-19, drawn to Group II, a member-joining device having a position determining means for projecting in a predetermined position of the first member. It is considered that the position determining means members as second “special technical feature”.

ELECTION

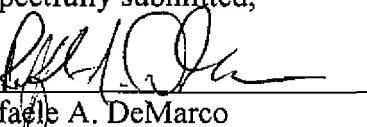
Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I which is defined by Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 without traverse for further prosecution on the merits. Therefore, claims 2, 3 and 5-9 should be examined at this time.

Applicants hereby reserve the right to continue prosecution of the non-elected claims in a divisional application.

It is believed that the present communication is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

Dated: November 26, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Raffaele A. DeMarco

Registration No.: 54,061
DARBY & DARBY P.C.
P.O. Box 770
Church Street Station
New York, New York 10008-0770
(212) 527-7700
(212) 527-7701 (Fax)
Attorney For Applicant